

Director Colette S. Peters



Colette S. Peters is the Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Ms. Peters was sworn in by Attorney General Merrick Garland on August 2, 2022, and assumed responsibility for the operation of 122 Bureau of Prisons facilities, six regional offices, two training centers, and 22 residential reentry management offices. She is also responsible for the oversight and management of approximately 35,000 employees and 160,000 adults in federal custody.

Ms. Peters has over 30 years of public safety experience. Prior to being selected as Director, Ms. Peters served as Director of the Oregon Department of Corrections (ODOC). Appointed in 2012, she was the first woman to serve as the ODOC Director. She has also served as chair of the National Institute of Corrections Advisory Board and a past Vice President of the Association of State Correctional Administrators.

Ms. Peters began her career working with justice involved youth as a Youth Counselor in Johnston, Iowa. She served in positions of increasing responsibility, including as a Victim Advocate and Crisis Mediator with the Denver Police Department. In 2004, she became the Director of Public Affairs for the ODOC, and in 2006 she was selected as the ODOC Assistant Director for Public Services and Inspector General. She was appointed Director of the Oregon Youth Authority, the state agency responsible for providing custody, rehabilitation, and treatment services to youth who committed crimes prior to their 18th birthday, in 2009.

Ms. Peters holds a Master's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Colorado in Denver and a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the College of Saint Benedict in Saint Joseph, Minnesota.